



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/679,123   | 10/03/2003  | Bernd Klinksick      | Bayer 10261-WCG     | 2253             |
| 27386 7590 12/18/2009<br>GERSTENZANG, WILLIAM C.<br>NORRIS MCLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, PA<br>875 THIRD AVE, 8TH FLOOR<br>NEW YORK, NY 10022 |             |                      |                     |                  |
| EXAMINER<br>MAEWALL, SNIGDEHA  |             |                      |                     |                  |
| ART UNIT   |             | PAPER NUMBER         |                     |                  |
| 1612   |             |                      |                     |                  |
| MAIL DATE  |             | DELIVERY MODE        |                     |                  |
| 12/18/2009   |             | PAPER                |                     |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/679,123

**Applicant(s)**

KLINKSIEK ET AL.

**Examiner**

Snigdha Maewall

**Art Unit**

1612

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-36, 40, 42, 44 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-36, 40, 42 and 44-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ ~~Notice of Informal Patent Application~~
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Summary*

1. Receipt of Applicants arguments/remarks, amended claims and **RCE** filed on 09/24/09 are acknowledged.

Claims 1-15, 37-39 remain withdrawn. Claims 41 and 43 have been cancelled.

Claims 16, 26 and 40 have been amended.

Claims **16-36, 40, 42 and 44-45** are under prosecution.

***The rejections not reiterated herein have been withdrawn in view of applicant's amendments to the claims.***

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims **16-36, 40, 42 and 44-45** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irvin et al. (USP 7,276,184) in view of Westesen et al. (US Patent No. 5,885,486).

Irvin et al. teaches preparation of nanoscale particulate material comprising functional materials which are solids at ambient temperature in conjunction with a surfactant/dispersant material within a carrier fluid carbon dioxide which is a compressed gas or supercritical fluid phase, depressurization of this mixture results in evaporation of carrier fluid which is carbon dioxide in this case and resulting in formation of nanoscale particles, see column 5, lines 10-25. The temperature used is from range of zero to hundred degrees Celsius and preferably from 10 to 60 degrees Celsius, see column 5, lines 47-50. The reference teaches that the nano materials have dimensions from 0.5 nm to 10 nm and can be solid or fluid –like properties, the nano fluid can be facilitated by the use of high molecular weight surfactant to functional material, see column 9, lines 15-25. Various surfactant described are ethylene and propylene oxides, alcohols, amides and esters, see column 6, lines 45-55.

The reference does not teach adding an aqueous solution of coating material or freeze drying or spray drying.

Westesen et al. discloses an invention relating to the area of administration forms and delivery systems for drugs, vaccines and other bioactive agents. The reference also describes the process of preparing micron and submicron particles of bioactive agents. The process as depicted describes that a solid lipid or bioactive agent or a mixture of solid lipids is melted; stabilizers are added either to the lipid or bioactive agent or to the

aqueous phase only depending on their physicochemical characteristics. Stabilizers may also be added or exchanged after homogenization. (abstract).

Drugs or bioactive agents can be melted together with lipid. Solid lipid particles such as fatty acids and their esters are disclosed on column 9, lines 23-25. Various drugs have been disclosed in column 10, lines 30-60. The bioactive agents can be dissolved, solubilized and dispersed in the matrix, see column 10, lines 61-64. The reference teaches that drugs or bioactive substances may be melted or may be dissolved, solubilized or dispersed in the lipid melt, see column 11, step (4). The melted lipid compounds are emulsified in the dispersion medium, see step (5) on column 11.

**Starch and glucose** are taught as stabilizers in column 15, lines 35-38. **propylene glycol** is taught in column 15, lines 40-45. Glycerol is taught in example 26.

The aqueous phase is heated to the temperature of the melt before mixing and may contain for example, stabilizers, isotonicity agents, buffering substances, and /or preservatives. The molten compounds are **emulsified** in an aqueous phase by **high pressure homogenization (abstract**, column 11 and steps 1-8). Drugs or bioactive agents particularly suitable are listed in column 10, lines 30-60). Ibuprofen and vitamins are also enlisted on the same column. Further in step 8 in column 11, lines 50-55, it is disclosed that the dispersion medium can be reduced by standard techniques such as **freeze drying and the lyophilized powder** can also be processed into other pharmaceutical formulations such as tablets etc. Regarding the end product being emulsion, the prior art teaches that the melted lipid compounds are emulsified in dispersion medium (see step (5) in column 11 (instant specification , on page 20,

teaches in lines 27-28 that the heating step is for very short time such that the emulsion state is present for short time).

The bioactive drugs can be dissolved or crystalline or amorphous or a mixture of these crystallographic states. Role of surfactant is described in example 19 on column 24. Various isotonicity agents such as glycerol or xylitol and sucrose, glucose are disclosed on column 10, lines 10-15. The suspensions and lyophilizates can be used for peroral, buccal, pulmonary etc. depending on the particle size (see column 14, lines 40-45). The reference further teaches the importance of smaller particle size during drug delivery process (see column 2, lines 10-25). The reference teaches that the drug carrier systems in the micrometer size range are represented as microspheres which are encapsulated (column 3, lines 30-35). The mean particle size lies in nanometer range and is prepared by emulsion polymerization or by solvent evaporation, see column 3, lines 35-37. The submicron size is of less than 50 nm is shown in column 6, lines 50-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the coating materials such as saccharides and utilize the drying process of spray drying as taught by Westesen et al. in to the teachings of Irvin et al. because both the references are directed towards teaching preparation of nanoparticulate formulation for drug delivery. One of ordinary would have been motivated to utilize the known coating process and known spray drying process of Westesen et al. into the known process of forming nanoscale particles as taught by Irvin et al. Regarding various temperatures and pressures recited in claims 17-25 and claims

32-33, it is the position of the Examiner that one of ordinary skill would have recognized varying temperatures and pressure to optimum degrees since prior art by Irvin teaches utilization of temperature and pressure during nano particle formation of substance. One of ordinary would have envisaged utilizing optimum temperature and pressure limitations in order to obtain nano particulate pulverized particles for drug delivery absent evidence of any criticality shown by applicants. Addition of various additives would have been obvious since the references teach addition of sugar, glycerin and stabilizers etc. It is further to be noted that addition of such ingredients are optional as claimed.

4. Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irvin et al. (USP 7,276,184) in view of Westesen et al. (US Patent No. 5,885,486) and further in view of Rochling et al. (USP 6,602,823).

The references taught above generically teach additives in the preparation. The references do not teach each and every additive claimed in claim 42. Rochling teaches various specific additives that are known to be utilized in the formulations. Rochling teaches dispersants such as gelatin, starch, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinylpyrrolidone and preservatives in column 6, lines 50-65. Fillers such as carbonates and silicates silica gels in column 7, lines 1-10.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute specific additives in formulation of the Irvin and Westesen motivated by the teachings of Rochling et al. because these ingredients are known to be added as additional

components in pharmaceutical art. It is further to be noted that addition of such ingredients are optional as claimed.

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims **16-36, 40, 42 and 44-45** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Snigdha Maewall whose telephone number is (571)-272-6197. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frederick Krass can be reached on 571-272-0580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information



Art Unit: 1612

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Snigdha Maewall/

Examiner, Art Unit 1612

/Gollamudi S Kishore/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1612